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Application No.: 10/664,671

Docket No.: JCLA12230-R2

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 because of the semicolons “;”, and claims 1-6, 13-20 and 25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rubens (US 3,285,997). Claims 9-12 & 21-24 were objected to as depending upon rejected claims.

In response thereto, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 7, 8, 13 and 25 and submitted the following remarks, wherein the semicolons “;” in claims 7 & 8 have been replaced with commas. Reconsideration of claims 1-25 is respectfully requested.

Discussions of Rejections to Claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

In amended independent claims 1, 13 & 25, when $m+n+q=1$ or when $m+n+q=2$, A^1-A^4 are 1,4-phenylene and Z^1-Z^4 are single bonds, any $-CH_2-$ of the alkyl represented by R^1 is not substituted with $-CO-$. In independent claim 7, any $-CH_2-$ of the alkyl represented by R^1 is not substituted with $-CO-$ in formula (a) corresponding to a case of $m+n+q=1$, or in formula (b) corresponding to a case of $m+n+q=2$ when A^1, A^2 and A^4 are 1,4-phenylene and Z^1, Z^2 and Z^4 are single bonds in formula (b). It is also noted that none of Z^1, Z^2 and Z^3 represents $-O-$ in claim 1, 7, 13 or 25.

Differently, a molecule in Rubens corresponds to formula (1), (2), (1a/1b) wherein $m+n+q=1$ and one $-CH_2-$ of the alkyl represented by R^1 is substituted with $-CO-$ ($A = O$ or C_{1-10}

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alkyl), wherein $m+n+q=2$, A^1-A^4 are 1,4-phenylene, Z^1-Z^4 are single bonds and one $-CH_2-$ of the alkyl represented by R^1 is substituted with $-CO-$ (A =phenyl, phenoxy or dioxyphenyl), or wherein $m+n+q \geq 3$ and Z^1-Z^3 all represent $-O-$ (A =polyoxyphenyl).

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1, 7, 13 & 25 and all claims dependent therefrom patently define over the prior art.

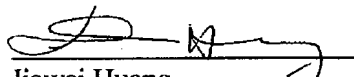
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-25 are in proper condition for allowance. *In addition*, if Examiner would issue next Office Action in the future, Applicants respectfully request a favor of Examiner to make a full search previously and provide all the references searched out in the next Office Action, because this application has been rejected up to five times with one or more different references provided each time and much money has been spent on this application. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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